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"That a committee of one be appointed to represent this Association in a joint-committee for collecting and preserving records of speech, song, and similar material in various languages and dialects by means of speech-recording and speech-transmitting apparatus; and that power to act be given to the committee, with the restriction that no expense to this Association is to be incurred without its express consent."

Professor E. W. Scripture was appointed to serve the Association in accordance with the terms of this motion.

6. "Some Popular Literary Motives in the *Edda* and the *Heimskringla*." By Professor Gustaf E. Karsten, of the University of Indiana. [Read by title.]

7. "The Language of Luther's *Ein Urteil der Theologen zu Paris*, 1521." By Professor H. Schmidt-Wartenberg, of the University of Chicago. [Read by title.]

8. "*Dialogus inter Corpus et Animam*." By Dr. Clark S. Northup, of Cornell University. [Read by title.] [Printed in *Publications*, xvi, 503 f.]

9. "Guiding Principles in the Study of Literature." By Professor Th. W. Hunt, of Princeton University. [Read by title.]

SECOND SESSION, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28.

The second regular session of the meeting was convened Friday, December 28, at 9.30 a. m. President Thomas R. Price was in the chair.

The following report of the Committee on International Correspondence (cf. *Proceedings* for 1899, pp. xiv-xviii) was presented by Professor E. H. Magill, Chairman of the Committee :

Your committee on International Correspondence respectfully presents the following report :

(1) A pamphlet of fifty-four pages entitled *La Correspondance Inter-Scolaire et les Correspondances Internationales* has been published in Tarbes, France, by Prof. Paul Mielles, the originator of this system. He quotes

favorable opinions from French, German, English, and Italian sources, and shows the rapid progress that the plan has made in these countries during the past year.

(2) The International Correspondence was very favorably considered by the "Congrès International de l'Instruction Secondaire" at the Paris Exposition. The very able and exhaustive report on the subject by Mlle. Scott, of the Lycée Molière, was enthusiastically received. The names of the founders and initiators were heard with applause, and a resolution was unanimously adopted commending the correspondence to the good will and care of the different departments of Education in France.

(3) A series of 100 prizes has been offered by Mr. W. T. Stead, of the London *Review of Reviews*, for excellence in the department of the International Correspondence, thirty for each of the three countries, England, France, and Germany, and ten for America, these prizes to be awarded by rules which he has set forth in a circular; and the names of the 100 prize-winners in the four countries are to appear in the first number of an *Inter-National Correspondence Annual* to appear in the three languages, English, French, and German, next spring.

That this correspondence may have the encouragement and support of the Modern Language Association, and that our own country may have a central bureau, as have the other three countries named which are more especially engaged in the correspondence, your committee have agreed to recommend to the Association the adoption and distribution among the teachers of French and German of the following circular letter:—

THE INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS.

Recognizing the educational value of an exchange of letters by the students and teachers of the different nations, those interested in the idea have in the last few years organized several Committees or central Bureaus for the purpose of promoting the plan and of giving it stability and regularity.

Such central organizations now exist in England, France, Germany, and Italy. The Modern Language Association of America has appointed a Committee with a similar purpose in view.

With the generous aid of several influential journals, these committees now bring, annually, a small army of students and teachers into interesting personal relations with each other, thereby greatly stimulating interest in the study of modern languages. The service is, and will remain, a gratuitous one, the only expense incurred being that of postage.

METHODS.

The method of entering upon and continuing the correspondence is very simple. Lists of names are sent to the central committees. At as early a

date as possible, usually in about one month, the applicants will receive letters in the language desired,—French, German, or Italian.

These letters they will promptly answer in English. The foreign correspondent, on receiving this English letter, will answer it in English; and when that answer is received here, the correspondent will make a careful correction of the English, and return this correction with a letter of his own written in the foreign language. This will be treated by the foreign correspondent in the same way; the next answer goes back in English and is answered by the foreign correspondent in his own language as at first. Thus the letters will continue to alternate the languages.

Instead of sending back the letters themselves, when corrected, most prefer to retain the letters on file, and send back instead a statement of the errors made, with their correction.

ADVANTAGES.

The advantages of this system are too numerous to be dwelt upon in the brief limits of this circular. Experience shows that, with ordinary oversight, the correspondence stimulates interest in two ways:

First, by bringing students into some degree of intimate contact with contemporary foreign life, thus broadening their ideas and sympathies; and

Secondly, by furnishing a strong motive to correct composition in the foreign tongue. Other incidental advantages are:

First, the benefit derived from comparisons of the mother tongue and the foreign idiom involved in the correction of errors in foreign correspondents' letters; and

Secondly, as the vocabulary employed by the foreigner will almost always be that of ordinary intercourse, the foreign letters furnish an abundance of genuine colloquial phrases, the memorizing and repetition of which are so valuable in learning *how the foreigner "really says things."*

STUDENTS' PRIZES.

Mr. W. T. Stead, editor of the London *Review of Reviews* and one of the most active promoters of the 'correspondence' now offers 100 prizes, or presents, consisting of books in the languages foreign to the recipients, to be given to those students "most deserving as regards continuance in regular, careful correspondence and as regards character." Ten of these prizes will be given in America; names and evidences of work must be received by this committee not later than the first week in February, 1901. Lists of prize-winners will be published in the first issue of the Annual for International Correspondence, to appear in London, about Easter, 1901.

To Modern Language Teachers: If you desire to take advantage of the organized International Correspondence, for yourself, or for those among your pupils of either sex whom you judge able to profit by it, the undersigned committee will take pleasure in forwarding your list of names to the

proper destination. The committee does not guarantee to furnish correspondents, but will do what it can to make a satisfactory arrangement in each case.

REGULATIONS.

1. It is understood that the correspondence is and continues under the direction of the teacher forwarding the names of his pupils. The name of the institution should always be given.

2. Correspondents of the opposite sex will not be assigned.

3. A nominal fee of twenty-five cents, to cover the postage incident to making the arrangement, must accompany each list.

4. The list should contain the full name, age, and address of the applicants, legibly written.

Address all correspondence to

EDWARD H. MAGILL, *Chairman*,
Swarthmore College,
Swarthmore, Pa.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Those interested in the history of the origin and remarkable growth of the idea of the International Correspondence, are referred to the following articles in American journals:

Modern Language Notes, Vol. XIII, p. 95, and XIV, p. 48; *Education*, Vol. XIX, p. 603; *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*, Vol. xv, Appendix 1, pp. xiii-xviii.

The best general *résumé* of the history of the International Correspondence is *La Correspondance inter-scolaire et les Correspondances internationales*, par Paul Mieille. 54 pp. Tarbes, 1900. See also the *Report of the Committee of Twelve*, D. C. Heath & Co., 1900, p. 12.

On motion of Professor Calvin Thomas, this report was accepted and the committee continued.

The following letter addressed to the Secretary by Professor H. A. Todd was then presented by Professor Calvin Thomas.

COÖPERATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY.

PARIS, December 7, 1900.

My Dear Dr. Bright,—

Soon after reaching Paris I recalled your request, made when we met in London in the summer, that I should send you some account of the recent progress of bibliographical coöperation in Europe, which might be laid before the Modern Language Association at its approaching meeting in Philadelphia.